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1978



MONTANA

DISASTER  
AND  
EMERGENCY  
SERVICES DIVISION

THIRD QUARTER  
1978

NEWSLETTER

C.L. Gilbertson  
Administrator

Thomas L. Judge  
Governor

John J. Womack  
The Adjutant General

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

*In my opinion, of the many functions that we must perform or coordinate, the one that could leave us with "egg on our face" (so to speak), would be warning or the lack of warning.*

*There is not a jurisdiction within our state that isn't vulnerable to some type of hazard--nuclear, natural or manmade. If it happens or I should say, when it happens, "if" our warning plan does not alert our public officials in a timely manner, so they can react, then we have failed miserably.*

*The basis for any warning plan must be a current, accurate, hazard analysis of your area. When this is established, determine how you can get early warning to the responsible officials and how the populace can be warned, if need be.*

*Warning needed because of a nuclear incident is a Federal and State responsibility with local government's cooperation. Through the State Warning Plan we should be able to notify the responsible officials within each county, then the responsibility rests on the local warning plan.*

*In most natural or mancaused incidents, the responsibility rests on local warning plans with state cooperation. We can assist in systems for your use such as the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS), Weather Radio System, etc., but the actual implementation of these systems must be incorporated into your local plan.*

*So I challenge you to review your plan and see if a severe weather warning was issued for your locality, would your plan allow for expeditious alerting of your responsible officials; and can they warn your populace in a timely and complete manner? The warning phase of any disaster incident is where the lives are saved. Remember, it will be your friends and neighbors who may be in jeopardy if your warning plan is deficient.*

-IS YOURS ADEQUATE?-

PLEASE RETURN

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OCT 18 1978

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY  
930 E Lyndale Ave.  
Helena, Montana 59601

## ON THE LOCAL SCENE

### CASCADE COUNTY

About twenty people who were camping in the woods near Monarch, southeast of Great Falls, were very happy to be alive after a tornado ripped through their campsite on the Fourth of July, 1978. Luckily, no one was seriously hurt when the tornado swept through and tore up about 200 acres of the Lewis & Clark National Forest, sending trees crashing down on a camper-bus, trailers and other vehicles at the campground.

\* \* \* \* \*

The "floodwaters" that Bill Murray, Cascade County D.E.S. Director has so patiently watched for during the rainy and runoff season this year, finally arrived in Cascade County. Bill found them one afternoon in July in the County Commissioners' front office when a plastic elbow in an air conditioning system pipe came unglued! The total contents of the courthouse's air conditioning system subsequently drained into the Commissioners' office.

While "disaster" mop up operations were effected--the Cascade County "seat" of government was forced to move their operations into Murray's Disaster & Emergency Service office down the hall!

### CARBON COUNTY

Norman Dewell, newly appointed director for Carbon County (effective 9/1/78), had his first taste of an emergency situation when an early winter snow storm on September 17, 1978, dumped more than a foot of snow in Red Lodge and the surrounding area. The snow was shipped into four foot snowdrifts by the 20 mph winds accompanying the storm. Over 50 power poles snapped under the weight of the heavy snow, leaving the area without electricity for over 36 hours.

While most people took to their homes to try to put up with the inconveniences of no electricity or heat in their homes, a couple bars with fireplaces stayed open and heated up coffee and soup for those who needed a place to warm up. It's reported that grocery stores in the area did a good business in hot dogs and marshmallows! Gasoline was also a problem for the few courageous souls who braved the storm, since most gas pumps were operated by electricity.

What's Norm's first undertaking to be? You guessed it--emergency power for the County Courthouse!

### HILL COUNTY

JUST A SUGGESTION--Wade "Butch" Woodring, County Director, has made arrangements to utilize the local Assessor's Office as a distributor for pamphlets on mobile home tiedowns.

## ON THE LOCAL SCENE (continued)

### MISSOULA COUNTY

Missoula County Director, Rick Leavell, estimated that from 4000 to 5000 gallons of sulphuric acid leaked from one of four tank cars involved in a 32 car train derailment about 4 miles west of Missoula on September 20, 1978. It is not known how much of this sulphuric acid actually ran down the hill into Finley Creek. However, enough acid entered the water to cause extensive fish kill. Fortunately, only "trout" died in this particular disaster as there were no "human" injuries reported.

The possibility of future disastrous spills seems to be on the increase, as attested to by the fact that this was only one of many similar occurrences to hit the Missoula area in the past few months.

Recognition of this fact prompted Rick Leavell to sponsor a two day Awareness Seminar on hazardous materials safety. Over 130 persons representing local fire, sheriff and police departments, several state agencies (Workmen's Compensation, Health Department, State D.E.S., Highway Department and National Guard), as well as hospitals, private industry, Red Cross and the U.S. Forest Service, attended the two day session held on September 27-28, 1978.

### RAVALLI COUNTY

Leaving a civil defense career spanning over the past twenty-five years, Margaret Sullivan, Ravalli County Director, retired effective 9/30/78.

Montana's "elegant, silver haired lady" of civil defense was honored at a special banquet, during the recent Advanced Seminar in Livingston, by the State Staff and her fellow civil defense directors for her outstanding achievements in civil defense. In addition, Margaret was honored at a retirement party in her own home town.

After her retirement, Margaret still plans to be on call and will help with training when needed.

Joe Rough, who has many years of experience in civil defense work, both as an officer in the Army and also as a civilian employee and volunteer, has been named to replace Margaret as Director of Ravalli County. Joe has been a volunteer on the county civil defense and emergency medical services staff as Communication's Officer since 1974.

### WELCOME ABOARD

Norman Dewell.....effective 9/1/78.....	Director.....	Carbon County
Louis Menicucci.....	"	"
Virginia Menicucci.....	"	"
Ellen Davis.....effective 9/26/78.....	Deputy Director...	" " "
Joe Rough.....effective 10/1/78.....	Director.....	Ravalli County

## NOAA WEATHER RADIO

Montana's NOAA Weather Radio System is slowly becoming a reality. Barring all unforeseen circumstances (inclement weather, backorders, etc.), eight of the nine planned stations should be broadcasting by the end of the year.

To refresh your memory:

NOAA Weather Radio is a service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. It provides continuous, around-the-clock broadcasts of the latest weather information, directly from National Weather Service offices, on a frequency of 162.40 MHz or 162.55 MHz. Taped weather messages are repeated every four to six minutes and are routinely revised every two to three hours, or more frequently, if needed. During severe weather, National Weather Service forecasters can interrupt the routine weather broadcasts and substitute special warning messages.

To utilize the system, individuals must either have a radio with a VHF weather band or must purchase a weather radio receiver. (Costs vary from \$10 to \$150 depending on quality and frills.) Receivers are also available with audible warning alarms. The alarms are triggered by a tone signal from the Weather Service office, thus alerting a listener so he can turn on his set for a special weather broadcast or warning.

Even though transmissions from the nine planned stations in Montana will not cover the entire "land area" of the State, it is designed to reach approximately 90-95% of Montana's population.

The NOAA Weather Radio System has been designated by the White House to be the sole government-operated radio system to provide home warnings for both natural disasters and national emergencies. Therefore, it is available to State and Local Disaster & Emergency Service Agencies for quick broadcast of emergency warning information.

Please contact the station relative to your particular area to coordinate the system into your warning plans:

STATION	LOCATION	METEOROLOGIST IN-CHARGE	ADDRESS	PHONE
*	Great Falls	Bill Rammer	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc 5010 - 9th Ave. South Great Falls, MT 59405	453-2081 453-4561
*	Helena	Grayson Cordell	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc Administration Bldg Helena Airport Helena, MT 59601	449-5215 449-5204 442-7312
**	Glasgow	Edgar Tipton	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc P.O. Box 629 Glasgow, MT 59230	228-4042

NOAA WEATHER RADIO (continued)

STATION LOCATION	METEOROLOGIST IN-CHARGE	ADDRESS	PHONE
** Billings	Bert Nelson	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc Administration Bldg Room 212 Billings/Logan Int'l Airport Billings, MT 59101	259-4442 259-4458
** Missoula	Lloyd Heavner	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc 5225 Highway 10 West Missoula, MT 59801	329-3785 543-7996
*** Kalispell	Paul Rank	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc Route 1 Glacier Park Int'l Airport Kalispell, MT 59901	755-4829 755-2345
*** Havre	Stanley Corp	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc P.O. Box 586 Havre, MT 59501	265-6424
*** Miles City	(Remote from Billings) Bert Nelson	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc Administration Bldg Room 212 Billings/Logan Int'l Airport Billings, MT 59101	259-4442 259-4458
****Butte	(Remote from Helena) Grayson Cordell	Nat'l Weather Svc Ofc Administration Bldg Helena Airport Helena, MT 59601	449-5215 449-5204 442-7312

\* Operational

\*\* Operational by 10/31/78

\*\*\* Operational by 12/31/78

\*\*\*\*Operational by early spring

### BLANKETS AVAILABLE

The American Woolen Company has an inventory accumulation of 100,000 gold, blue, brown, and green 100% Polyester, 72" x 90", 2½ lb., hospital blankets with overedge stitching on the ends. To effect a massive reduction in this inventory, they are offering these blankets at \$4.00 each F.O.B., North Carolina.

Terms: Net 30 days. You may purchase as many blankets as you require. Please order in multiples of twelve.

These blankets meet all the flammability requirements of the Federal Standards implementing the Flammable Fabrics Act.

This Company also offers woolen blankets: 90% wool, 10% man-made fiber, 72" x 84" in green, blue, maroon and grey, 4 lbs. @ \$8.50 each, packed 20 per carton. The same blanket in size 62" x 82", 3½ lbs., in khaki, maroon, or green is \$7.50 each, packed 25 per carton. Wool is the best flame resistant fabric as it is able to resist flames better than other fabrics. Wool has flame resistance inherent in the fiber.

Terms: Net 30 days, F.O.B. Massachusetts on all woolen blankets.

Contact: American Woolen Company  
P.O. Box 403007  
Miami Beach, Florida 33140  
Phone: (305) 864-4001

### RADEF NEWS

To assure that forms and supplies are readily available for the local Radiological Defense Officer's use should a nuclear situation arise, an "RDO Kit" is being assembled by the State Office. Distribution of a kit to each local EOC is planned by January 1, 1979.

Included in the Kit will be the following items:

State maps	Reporting Forms	Nomograms
Template	Shelter Pamphlets	Reporting Area Maps
Protractor	Monitor Handbook	Shelter Forms
Compass	Shelter Manager Handbook	Message Forms
Ruler	Colored Pencils or Pens	Graph-Graph Paper
Grease Pencil	Note Pads	RDO Manual
#2 Lead Pencils	Ballpoint Pens	Aerial Monitors Handbook
Thumb Tacks	T-Pins	

To complete the kit, we suggest that each county provide the following:

County Maps	Flashlights
Candles	Batteries
List of Monitoring Stations	List of Trained Monitors

## SEARCH & RESCUE

The National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) is sponsoring a training course entitled: "Managing the Search Function". It is designed to train persons who will have the "on-the-scene" responsibility for managing a search mission. Emphasis will be on preplanning, how to use resources most effectively, search strategy and tactics, and administrative and logistical details.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course the participant will be able to:

1. Manage a search;
2. Discuss the elements of a search preplan and describe its importance to a successful mission;
3. Identify the basic types of search and rescue resources and discuss their function and limitations;
4. Describe the various tactics that can be used to search for lost persons;
5. Describe the resources and sequence of initial action in applying SAR resources in order to locate the missing subject;
6. Describe the functions of effective search organization;
7. Demonstrate the ability to establish probable search area in a given map problem;
8. Identify the key factors involved in deciding to suspend a mission;
9. Discuss the importance of preventive search and rescue programs;
10. Describe the function of clue detection as it relates to search theory.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Persons with designated responsibility for "on-scene" management of a search mission. Also appropriate for state coordinators or others who are in positions capable of influencing the improvement of search mission management.

COURSE DATES: November 4 through November 7, 1978.

LOCATION: Littleton, Colorado (suburb of Denver) - Site @ the Littleton Operations Center

COST: \$200 registration fee will include all course materials. A fee of only \$75 will be charged to individual members of NASAR. Others with unique circumstances may apply for special consideration (50% discounts). Participants will be on their own for accommodations and other expenses. Free "sleeping bag space" will be available. Otherwise, Essex House is the closest lodging.

HOW TO APPLY: Send the application, along with a check or money order (payable to NASAR) or official purchase order to:

NASAR  
P.O. Box 2123  
La Jolla, CA 92038

All applications and registration fees must be received by October 20, 1978.

## EXCESS PROPERTY

While the supply of available excess property has slowly declined over the years, let's not forget about the "limitless" supply we have on hand right here in the State. The "supply" we're referring to is that piece of excess property obtained a few years back (before you had money to buy that beautiful "new" fire truck or that "new" ambulance, etc.) that is now just sitting there--doing nothing!!

If the "need" for this particular excess property item has changed within the past few months or years--let the State Office know. Maybe we can find someone else who is in desperate need (like you used to be)!

## EARTHQUAKE HAZARD MITIGATION

On July 15, 1978 the first meeting of the newly formed Governor's Ad Hoc Committee on Earthquake Hazard Mitigation, met in Helena. The goal of the committee was to review the State's role in earthquake hazard mitigation and determine if its responsibilities need to be strengthened or improved.

The committee is composed of the following members who represent a wide variety of professions or fields of expertise:

Grant Crossman, Architect  
Crossman, Whitney, Griffin  
Helena, MT

Phil Green  
Morrison-Maierle, Inc.  
Consulting Engineers  
Helena, MT

Jim E. Richard  
Local Planning Services Bureau Chief  
Planning Division  
State of Montana

C.L. Gilbertson  
Administrator  
Disaster & Emergency Services Division  
State of Montana

Dr. Walter W. Hays  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Denver Federal Center  
Denver, CO.

W. James Kembel  
Administrator  
Building Codes Division  
State of Montana

Senator Bob Peterson  
Butte, MT

Calvin Crouch  
Councilman  
Columbia Falls, MT

Dr. John Montagne  
Department of Earth Sciences  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, MT

### Members still to be confirmed:

Member from House of Representatives  
Member from Montana Association of  
Counties

## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION

(September 26, 1978)

Under Section 16-1803, R.C.M. 1947, counties may contract for the repair of bridges and roads damaged by disasters and calamities without competitive bidding, provided there is an express determination the repairs are urgently and immediately needed.



### NEW DIRECTOR'S SEMINAR

New Directors and/or Deputy-Directors are invited to attend a Basic Seminar scheduled for December 4-6, 1978 in Helena. Participants will be reimbursed for mileage and per diem expenses while in attendance. We urge "all" new Directors to attend. Please contact your District Coordinator or Roy Ryan at the State Office for further information.

### PLEASE NOTE: ADVANCED SEMINAR RESCHEDULED

Because of a request from the local Director's Association, the upcoming spring Advanced Seminar will again be held in conjunction with the Governor's Conference for County Commissioners. Revised dates for the meetings are as follows:

Governor's Conference.....February 14, 1979 @ Colonial Inn in Helena  
Advanced Seminar.....continues on February 15 & 16, 1979 @ Jorgenson's  
Holiday Inn in Helena

Remember that 1979 is a Legislative year and rooms are hard to come by in Helena... so make your reservations early!

### CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE

Helen Elliott, Pondera County Director has just completed the Phase III Class at Battle Creek, Michigan which was held August 14-25, 1978.

### CRITIQUE: MONTANA - WARNEX 78-2 August 1978

They say that practice makes perfect! And do we ever need practice! For some unknown reason, this exercise fell flat on its face.

Maybe its failure was due to the fact that many counties did not involve anyone except the Warning Points. Who knows???

Two very obvious problems were noted after the exercise:

1. Many of the NAWAS points dropped the ball after they received the warning and did not notify the counties for which they are responsible.  
Result: No warning in eleven counties.
2. Many of the dispatchers did not know what to do when they received notice of the exercise. Apparently the Directors failed to touch base with these people ahead of time for a briefing--or they do not have an SOP on hand.

Remember--it is essential for your operating procedures to be either maintained and updated or new procedures established.

## NEW EQUIPMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET

*(as described in the International  
Civil Defence Bulletin-Geneva)*

### MOBILE EMERGENCY HOSPITAL:

The SOCORAUM Company of Geneva has developed a new 60-bed emergency hospital from which disaster medical relief can be dispensed.

The hospital is an autonomous unit in the form of a folding container which can be placed on a semi-trailer chassis; or transported by train, boat, airplane, and helicopter. Thus, no matter how serious the disaster or calamity, no matter where it occurs, even if the access routes are cut off, it is possible to provide relief to the sick and injured.

When it is put into operation, the unit, transformed by the lateral unfolding of one side of the container, expands its surface area to cover approximately 1215 sq. ft.

All of the interior installations and fittings fit into their place inside the unit during transport or setup, which makes it possible to start unfolding immediately once the unit has arrived at the site of operations.

In order to reduce the time required for setup (3 hours maximum for 2 or 3 persons), the unit is equipped with four hydraulically-operated jacks making it possible to lift the container from the transport trailer and place it on a metal support which is also transported (disassembled) inside the unit.

### A FEW TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

Framework: Steel girder construction, with locking corner plates permitting safe stacking of the units.

Sanitation area: 4 toilets, 4 showers, 2 wash basins, 2 coat closets

Water Supply System: Stainless-steel tanks holding 300/500 litres, complete with sterilizer

Air conditioning: Adequate supply of warm or cold air

Total Weight of Container: 11.47 tons

### OTHER POSSIBLE USES:

1. Medical center with emergency first-aid station (operating room, post-op, analytical laboratory, four First-Aid compartments for walking cases).
2. School with five classrooms each accommodating 20 pupils.
3. Office block, with five offices
4. Dormitory with 60 bed-spaces.
5. Family housing unit containing four 2-bedded and four 6-bedded rooms.
6. Kitchen and dining hall capable of serving 90 people.
7. Self-service canteen capable of serving 110 people.

## NEW EQUIPMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET (continued)

An apparatus for recovering petroleum fuels has just been developed in Switzerland. The "Hydronet" can be used to fight accidental fuel pollution of rivers, lakes and other bodies of water as well as various terrains and basements. By means of a floating strainer, the device pumps up sheets of crude, fuel oil, etc., at the rate of 6000 litres an hours. "Hydronet" restores the fuel on one hand and the water on the other. Several applications can be contemplated: oil slicks on water, cleaning of fuel tanks and land areas which have been soaked by fuel oil, drainage of oil tanker holds, etc.

\* \* \* \* \*

A new resuscitator for use in toxic and non-toxic environments has been developed in Great Britain. It meets the need for emergency action by non-medical personnel for victims suffering from accidental respiratory failure in such incidents as choking, unconsciousness, electric shock, inhalation of smoke and poisonous fumes, etc., which cut off breathing and make immediate resuscitation assistance essential. "Pneupac" is a lightweight, portable, compressed gas (air and oxygen) powered resuscitator operating on a controlled but variable time-cycling principle, delivering to the victim limited volumes of gas under predetermined pressure.

